

ARMORY AND OFFICE,

Bridgeport, Conn.

April 17, 2004

369

Ron Sahnaw, 1228 North Winchester Lane, Liberty Lake, Washington 99019

Bought of

THE SHARPS RIFLE COMPANY.

Dear Mr. Sahnaw:

Sharps rifle Serial # 159416 has been located in the original records of the Sharps Rifle Company. It is listed in Order Book No. 3 as a Model 1874 Sporting Rifle and was invoiced at the Bridgeport factory on December 27, 1876 to the firm of Lee & Reynolds, Dodge City, Kansas.

The rifle is further described as being .44 caliber, using the 2 & 5/8 inch shell, with a 30 inch full octagon barrel, double triggers, open sights and oil-finished stocks. The weight was listed as 13 pounds 12 ounces, and the price was \$44 with a 25 % discount applied to an order for 20 rifles.

A case of 10 Octagon Sporting rifles was shipped to Lee & Reynolds on December 26, 1876 and another case of 10 on December 27th, no doubt a single order shipped in two segments. Also sent were a large number of re-loading implements, primers, patch paper and empty shells. The total for both shipments came to something over \$1800.

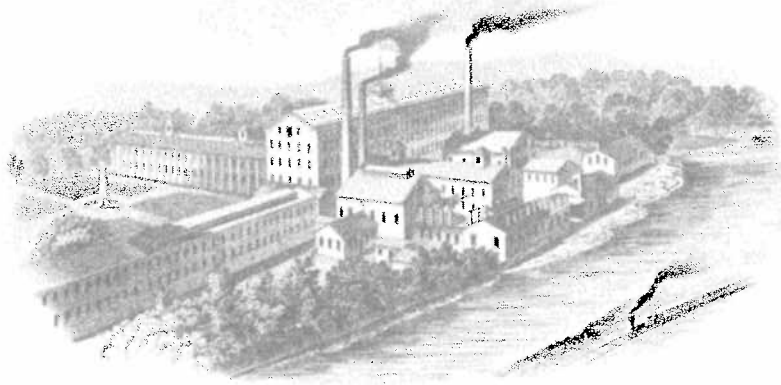
Lee & Reynolds were general merchants on the frontier. Their operation in Dodge City was relatively brief; their stores at Camp Supply, Indian Territory and Sweetwater (later Mobeetie), Texas were longer-lived. It is noteworthy that Dodge City at this time was the primary supplier to the buffalo hunters that crossed over into the North Texas hunting grounds forbidden to them by treaty. Fort Griffin, Texas soon replaced Dodge as the principal entrepot for the Texas Buffalo Hunt.

Congratulations on owning a fine example of a true "buffalo" Sharps rifle. Thank you for your inquiry, and continued good luck in your collecting.

Yours very truly,

Richard J. Labowskie
Richard J. Labowskie, M.D.

Richard J. Labowskie M.D., 4613 Osage Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19143. 215-748-1376
Serial number documentation from the original records of the Sharps Rifle Company.



ARMORY AND OFFICE,

Dodge City, Kan

February 10, 2004

356

Kenneth R. Dickinson, 9365 Gap Road, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania 17268-9265

Bought of

THE SHARPS RIFLE COMPANY.

Dear Mr. Dickinson:

Sharps rifle serial # 159416 has been located in the original records of the Sharps Rifle Company. It is listed in Order Book No. 3 as a Model 1874 Sporting Rifle and was invoiced at the Bridgeport factory on December 27, 1876 to the firm of Lee & Reynolds, Dodge City, Kansas.

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A case of 10 Octagon Sporting Rifles was shipped to Lee & Reynolds on December 26, 1876 and another case of 10 on December 27th, no doubt a single order shipped in two segments. Also sent were a large number of reloading implements, primers, patch paper and empty shells. The total for both shipments came to something over \$1800.

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Congratulations on owning a fine example of a true "buffalo" Sharps rifle. Thanking you for your inquiry, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Rich Labowskie
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